

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending October 19, 1997

Issue: 33-97

Phone: (402) 437-5541

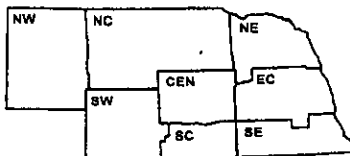
P.O. Box 81069

Released: 10/20/97 - 3:00 p.m.

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the entire State were basically at normals for the week for this time of year. Precipitation across the State averaged from two tenths of an inch to one and a half inches.

GENERAL

Corn and soybean harvests were back in full swing last week as soils dried from weekend rains over most of the State and snow which fell in higher elevations of the west, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn for grain harvest was active with grain moisture having declined to the mid-teens in some areas. The high winds of a week ago caused wind erosion in the west and left many stalks lodged. In some locations, producers were harvesting in one direction to limit field losses. Producers were switching from remaining soybean fields to corn or sorghum as green stems continued to make soybean harvest slow. Farmers moving grain to market found elevators piling grain in temporary storage locations as rail cars were scarce. By midweek, some elevator locations were near or at capacity. Sugar beet harvest was underway in western counties and dry bean, millet and potato harvests were near completion. Other farm activities included fencing and moving cattle to stalk fields, drying grain and repairing equipment.

CROPS

Corn acreage matured advanced to 99%, compared to 100% last year and 99% average. Corn for grain harvest was 45% complete, well ahead of 21% last year and one week ahead of the 28% average. Moisture of grain coming out of the field was recorded mostly in the upper teens, well below year

CROPS (Cont.)

ago levels. Stalk breakage was reported statewide with some fields 40-50% down.

Soybean harvest slowed to 79% complete, behind 87% last year and 82% average. Harvest was slow due to green stems and weeds. Producers continued to wait for a hard freeze. Harvested bean moisture content was under 10% in most cases.

Sorghum was mature on 96% of the acreage, ahead of 92% last year and 95% average. Grain harvest was 54% complete, well ahead of 14% last year and eight days ahead of the 31% average.

Alfalfa condition improved with the recent rains and rated 2% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 50% good and 4% excellent. Fourth cutting advanced to 82% harvested as of Sunday. Some producers had given up hope of a fourth cutting.

Winter wheat condition showed little change and rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 30% fair, 60% good and 7% excellent. As of Sunday, 95% of the acreage was emerged, ahead of 88% last year and 94% average. Reports from the western counties indicated wind erosion occurred four days in a row with wind gusts in the 40-70 mph range.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition showed limited improvement due to the recent rains and rated 5% very poor, 16% poor, 31% fair, 46% good, and 2% excellent. Overgrazing in some areas will slow pasture regrowth. Producers were weaning and working calves with livestock being moved to stalks as corn harvest progresses.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF OCTOBER 19, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Mature	86	99	99	100	99	98	100	98	99	94	100	99
% Corn Harvested	19	36	40	40	49	36	47	65	45	20	21	28
% Soybeans Harvested	n/a	86	80	69	79	87	85	79	79	63	87	82
% Sorghum Mature	n/a	99	100	99	100	97	95	94	96	95	92	95
% Sorghum Harvested	n/a	39	88	27	43	57	49	61	54	35	14	31
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	51	99	71	95	91	90	84	88	82	79	n/a	n/a
% Wheat Emerged	99	94	90	96	89	93	94	91	95	87	88	94
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF OCTOBER 17, 1997												
Days suitable	4.6	3.9	4.5	3.3	4.2	3.4	4.2	4.9	4.2	6.3	6.3	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	15	2	4	0	
(Percent) - Short	14	15	22	6	8	13	17	27	15	37	15	
- Adequate	84	84	77	88	83	75	72	58	78	58	83	
- Surplus	2	1	1	6	8	11	10	0	5	1	2	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	1	1	9	2	1	4	3	33	6	7	0	
(Percent) - Short	18	13	21	37	23	37	33	38	25	35	9	
- Adequate	81	85	59	61	74	58	61	29	67	58	89	
- Surplus	0	1	11	0	2	1	3	0	2	0	2	

n/a = not available.

Periodical Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

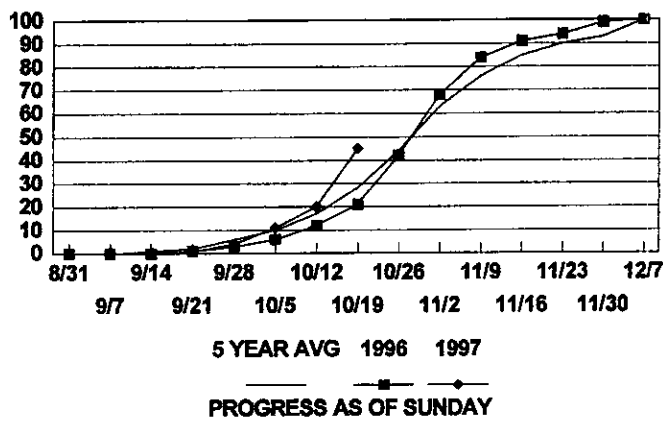
10/20/97

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

CORN

HARVESTED FOR GRAIN

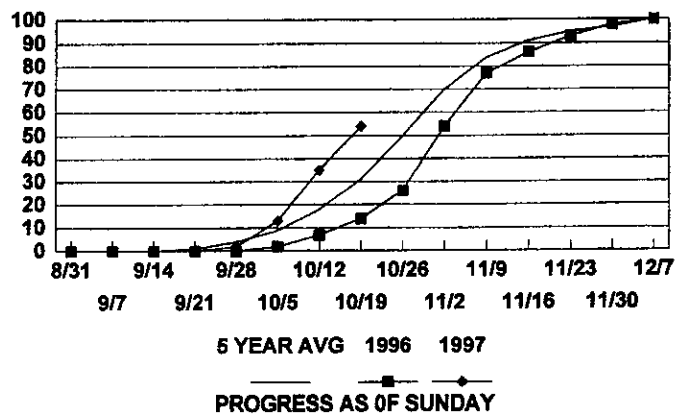
% HARVESTED



SORGHUM

HARVESTED FOR GRAIN

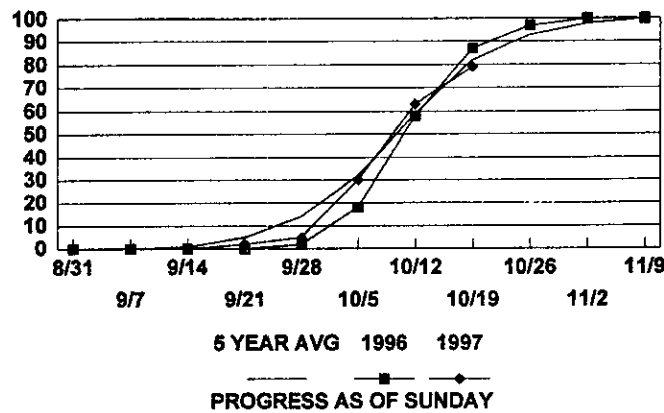
% HARVESTED



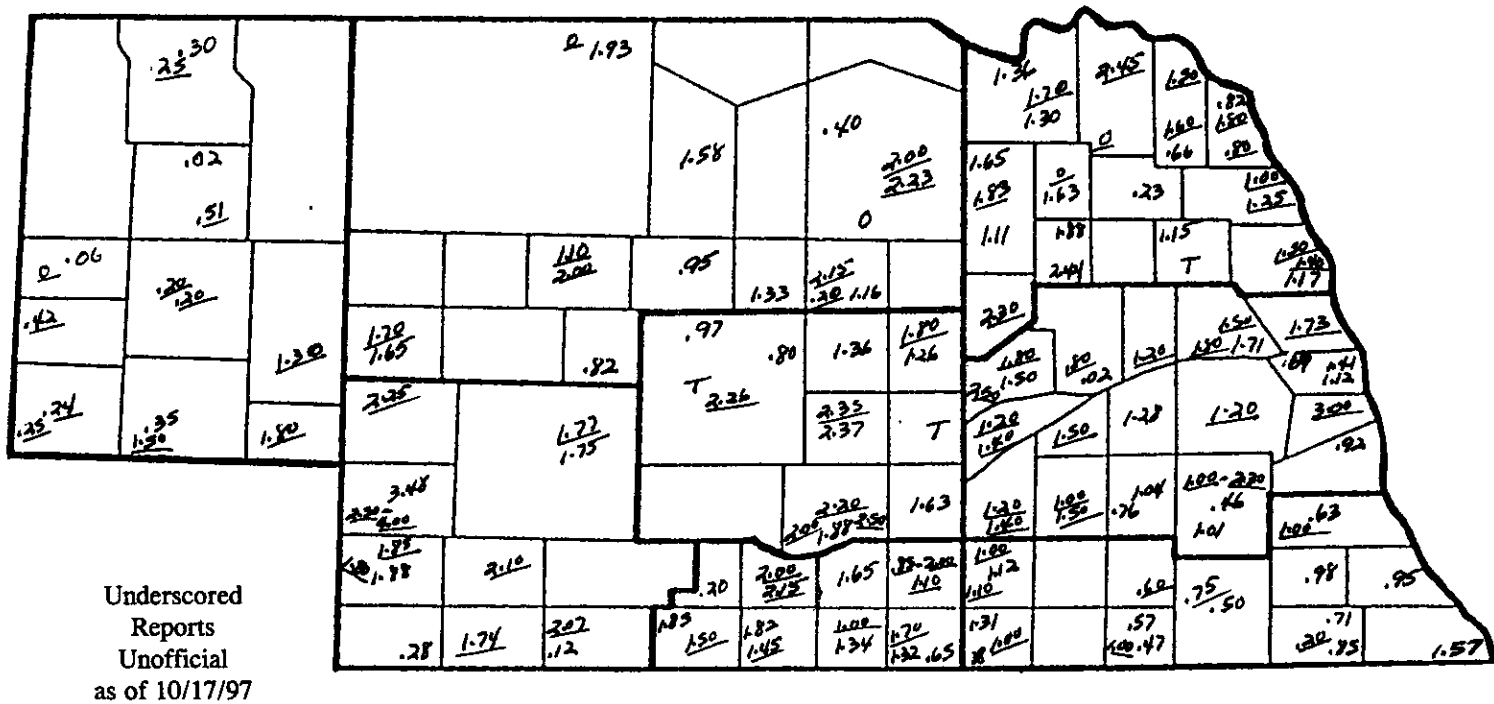
SOYBEANS

HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES

% HARVESTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1997



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1997

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	76	29	51	---	.30
	Scottsbluff	77	31	50	0	.06
	Sidney	75	30	49	---	.35
NC	Valentine	77	30	50	0	1.93
NE	Norfolk	71	28	52	0	1.88
	Sioux City	72	30	51	-1	.82
CEN	Grand Island	72	34	53	0	1.63
	Ord	70	30	50	---	1.36
EC	Lincoln	72	32	53	-1	.46
	Omaha	71	33	53	-1	1.41
SW	Imperial	78	31	51	---	1.88
	North Platte	78	30	51	+1	1.75